

ALL ALONG

Romans 13:1-10 | Matthew 18:1-20

What does it mean to be _____?

Jesus warns _____

Evil _____ itself in _____

And still, Jesus centers His message in _____

To be in His presence all _____

READ. REFLECT. RESPOND. REMEMBER.

As I mention in my sermon, I am deeply indebted to the work of Dr. Diane Langberg and her work to bring out the healing that is in Jesus for the victims of abuse and trauma in this world. Perhaps, in ways big and small, you have experienced trauma in this world. If so, seeking professional help to address those traumas and coming to a fullness – a wholeness / *shalom* – is a fundamental and critical aspect of you being a fully human being. Yet, for all of us, even just the awareness of how much trauma is inflicted on individuals and groups of people is a significant reminder of how much brokenness exists around us and how deep the need for Jesus is, and how *important* our witness to him is. Read Isaiah 61 and feel the delight God has in healing and restoration. That Jesus in Luke 4 picks up the scroll of Isaiah (Luke 4:16-21) and says that these words are about him is a beautiful thing – that is what our God is about.

Reflect:

Lowliness, humility and need. These are qualities that Jesus identifies as being of great value. How do you value these in your own life? In others?

How do you respond when someone corrects and/or challenges you? Does it bring life, or more anger?

Reflect:

To be vulnerable with God is to experience true freedom.

Remember:

“And he said: ‘Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.’” – Matthew 18:2